



NEWS RELEASE

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Anti-illegal recruitment seminar required of passport applicants in Zamboanga

As part of the government's campaign against illegal recruitment, applicants for passport in Zamboanga City are required to attend pre-employment orientation seminar (PEOS), the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration revealed yesterday.

Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said the POEA and Department of Foreign Affairs in Region 9 have agreed to make attendance to the pre-employment seminar a requisite in the issuance of passports for work abroad.

In the seminar, prospective overseas Filipino workers are provided information on how to avoid illegal recruitment, the labor and employment condition in several countries of destination, and the realities of working in another country, Baldoz said.

The POEA is widening its network of partners in the implementation of the PEOS program, getting the support of various national agencies, local government units, industry associations, and professional groups.

Baldoz said the Philippine Nurses Association is also requiring its members attendance to PEOS prior to their registration.

The PEOS program is a strategy of the government to protect workers from exploitation and abuse by unscrupulous recruiters and employers.

"It is important that the applicants are properly informed and guided even before they make any decision on working overseas", Baldoz said.

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